IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re Application of: Gregory H. Lambrecht et al.

Serial No.: 09/700,167 Filing Date: 11/09/00

Title:

CARDIAC VALVE PROCEDURE

METHODS AND DEVICES

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: David J. Isabella

Attorney's Docket No.: VIA-3

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicant hereby petitions for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Official Action mailed May 23, 2002 with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from June 23, 2002 to September 23, 2002, 2001.

A check in the amount of \$460.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of Small Entity status.

In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. \underline{A} duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON:

September 23, 2002

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

James A. Sheridan

James a. Sherida 9/23/
(Signature)

September 23, 2002

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

KT/VIA3.EXT

VIA-3

Respectfully submitted,

James a. Sheridan 9/23/02

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